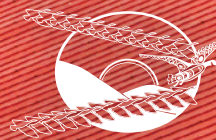


BC ASSOCIATION OF ABORIGINAL FRIENDSHIP CENTRES

ANNUAL REPORT
2025–2026



BC Association of Aboriginal
Friendship Centres | BCAFC

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We acknowledge with respect and gratitude the communities who inform our work and allow us to live on their traditional and unceded territories.

BCAAFC resides on the traditional territory of the Lkwungen-speaking peoples and the WSÁNEĆ peoples, the traditional keepers of this land who remain here as the original and rightful stewards.

Each Friendship Centre is powered by multi-generational relationships, a deep understanding of the communities they are a part of, and a shared commitment to providing culturally relevant services to Indigenous peoples.

The National Association of Friendship Centres is a network of over 100 Friendship Centres and Provincial/Territorial Associations, which make up the Friendship Centre Movement.

Since 1972, it has been Canada’s most significant national network of self-determined Indigenous-owned and operated civil society community hubs offering programs, services, and supports to urban Indigenous people.

BCAAFC is a proud member of the National Association of Friendship Centres. We thank the NAFC Team for their ongoing guidance, advocacy, and support and we are excited about the things we are accomplishing together as a growing urban Indigenous family.



OUR VISION

BCAAFC is an innovative organization working collaboratively with its member centres and partners to support urban Indigenous people as they realize their vision of health, wellness, and prosperity.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to advance the Friendship Centre Movement in B.C. through advocacy and the delivery of programs and services that support the growth and prosperity of our member centres and urban Indigenous people.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

My name is Annette Morgan. My traditional name is Nox Stikine.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present this Annual Report and reflect on a year of meaningful progress, transition, and achievement for our organization.

The accomplishments highlighted throughout this report reflect the dedication and commitment of our staff, Friendship Centre leaders, Elders Council, Provincial Indigenous Youth Council, partners, and communities across British Columbia.

Together, we continue to strengthen our network and advance opportunities that support Indigenous people and communities in urban, rural, and northern settings.

This year included several significant milestones. We celebrated the continued success of Gathering Our Voices with record attendance in Vancouver, advanced important policy reviews and updates, and undertook a comprehensive review of our bylaws, helping to ensure our governance framework remains strong, clear, and responsive to the organization's evolving needs..

We also continued to build momentum in leadership and capacity development through the MBA AR program, welcoming Cohort Two and looking ahead with anticipation to the launch of Cohort Three next year.

In addition, the Board completed the recruitment and selection of a new Executive Director, Celeste Hayward, marking an important transition and ensuring BCAAFC is well-positioned for the future. We are confident that BCAAFC's leadership will continue to lead with vision and dedication as they guide the organization into its next chapter.

As a Board, we remain committed to good governance, accountability, and supporting the vision of thriving, self-determined urban Indigenous communities. I invite you to read this report with pride in the collective achievements it represents.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to another successful year.

Annette Morgan, MBA
President, Board of Directors

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

My name is Celeste Hayward, and I am a proud member of the Wet'suwet'en Nation from Smithers, B.C. I carry with me the teachings, values, and responsibilities of my family, community, and ancestors, and I am honoured to serve as the Executive Director of the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres.

This annual report reflects a year of transition, renewal, achievement, and relationship-building. While I joined BCAAFC partway through this reporting period, the months since have provided an opportunity to listen, learn, connect, and begin charting a path forward alongside our members, Board of Directors, staff, Elders Council, Provincial Indigenous Youth Council, and partners.

One of my first priorities was connecting with the Friendship Centres across B.C. Friendship Centres are far more than service providers; they are guided by the responsibility to give each other a good life, working to advance wellbeing, Indigenous ways of

knowing, connection to the land, opportunity, and a sense of belonging in their communities. Friendship Centres represent the strength and resilience of urban, rural, and northern Indigenous peoples and they continue to respond to community needs with compassion, innovation, and determination. Through visits, meetings, gatherings, and conversations with members across the province, I have been continually inspired by the leadership and commitment that exists throughout our network.

This year also provided an opportunity to strengthen our relationship with our membership. Through engagement sessions, governance discussions, and conversations regarding proposed bylaw amendments, members helped shape important decisions about the future of BCAAFC. These discussions reinforced the importance of ensuring that BCAAFC remains strong, accountable, and reflective of the communities and Friendship Centres we serve.

At the same time, we have continued to strengthen our political engagement. Whether participating in provincial and federal policy discussions, discussing investments in urban, rural, and northern Indigenous communities, supporting initiatives that advance safety, equity, and reconciliation, or ensuring Friendship Centre voices are heard at decision-making tables, we remain committed to creating positive and lasting change for the people and communities we serve.

As you read through this annual report, I encourage you to take pride in the accomplishments reflected in these pages. The work highlighted here represents the dedication, innovation, and leadership of Friendship Centre staff, the Board of Directors, Elders Council, PIYC, volunteers, and community members across British Columbia. From delivering essential programs and services to supporting cultural revitalization, strengthening community wellness, advancing reconciliation, and creating spaces of belonging and healing, the achievements outlined in this report have made a meaningful difference in the lives of thousands of Indigenous people and families.

These accomplishments are the result of decades of relationship-building, community leadership, and an unwavering commitment to serving

urban Indigenous communities. At a time when many communities continue to face complex challenges, Friendship Centres have once again demonstrated their ability to lead, adapt, and respond with strength, compassion, and vision. There is much in this report that we can celebrate together and much that gives us confidence for the future.

This work is only possible because of the dedication of so many people. I want to extend my gratitude to our member Friendship Centres, Board of Directors, staff, Elders Council, PIYC, volunteers, funders, and partners. Your leadership, guidance, and commitment continue to move this organization forward.

While there is important work ahead, we should also take time to celebrate how far we have come. This annual report reflects not only a year of progress, but the collective strength of a movement that continues to grow, evolve, and make a profound impact in communities across B.C. Together, we have much to be proud of, and together, we will continue to build a future where Indigenous people living in urban communities are supported, celebrated, and empowered to thrive.

In friendship and respect,

Celeste Hayward, MPP
Executive Director



FRIENDSHIP CENTRES

There are 24 Friendship Centres across B.C.
Together, they represent over 1,700 employees, 600+ partnerships, and over 1,000,000 client interactions each year.

Cariboo Friendship Society (Williams Lake)
Conayt Friendship Society (Merritt)
Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Society (Smithers)
Fort Nelson Aboriginal Friendship Society
Fort St. John Friendship Society
Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (Surrey)
Friendship House Association of Prince Rupert
Hiiye'yu Lelum (House of Friendship) Society (Duncan)
Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society
Kermode Friendship Society (Terrace)
Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (Kelowna)
Lillooet Friendship Centre Society
Mission Friendship Centre Society
Nawican Friendship Centre (Dawson Creek)
North Okanagan Friendship Centre Society (Vernon)
Ooknakane Friendship Centre (Penticton)
Port Alberni Friendship Center
Prince George Native Friendship Centre Society
Quesnel Tillicum Society
Tansi Friendship Centre Society (Chetwynd)
Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Society (Nanaimo)
Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society
Victoria Native Friendship Centre
Wachiay Friendship Centre Society (Courtenay)



The Friendship Centre Movement

The Friendship Centre Movement is made up of over 100 Friendship Centres from coast to coast.

Friendship Centres provide culturally relevant programs and services for Indigenous people living in urban communities. Collectively, they are the most significant off-reserve Indigenous service delivery infrastructure.

Friendship Centres provide wraparound programs and services in every area you could think of. To many, they are a safe space, a second home, and a place of learning.

The history of the Friendship Centre Movement explains the gift Friendship Centres have for integrating knowledge networks from the past and present to guide and sustain progress.

Friendship Centres actively support:

- › 76 of the 231 MMIWG2S+ Calls for Justice
- › 47 of the 94 TRC Calls to Action
- › 21 of the 46 articles in UNDRIP

STRATEGIC PLAN

2026-2030

Our strategic plan is grounded in Indigenous ways of knowing, building our lodge, and it outlines our responsibilities.

The 2026–2030 strategic plan advances BCAAFC’s vision of supporting urban Indigenous people’s health, wellness, and prosperity. Priorities balance member-focused initiatives and internal capacity-building to strengthen programs, advocacy, and governance.

The plan embeds core values, including transparency, accountability, collaboration, integrity, and respect for diverse Indigenous traditions and their role in guiding actions and decision-making. The strategic plan creates a lens that we can consider our existing programs and services through.

Strategic Priorities 2026-2030

1. Enhance Stabilization Supports for Friendship Centres
2. Strengthen Organizational Capacity
3. Disability Inclusion and Accessibility
4. Advance Health and Wellness Outcomes
5. Empower Children and Youth
6. Establish Leadership in Addressing Violence
7. Confront and Prevent Homelessness
8. Urban Indigenous Housing
9. Education

2. STRENGTHEN ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

2.1 Social Services Sector Advocate

The BCAAFC Social Services Sector Advocate aims to support and advocate for B.C. Friendship Centre programming and services. The advocate focuses on priorities identified by Friendship Centres, which range from health services to funding for youth and families and represents the interests of the membership when engaging with provincial and federal funders.

Over the past year we coordinated gatherings at Friendship Centres to collect data for the Urban Indigenous Wellness Report, maintained ongoing consultations with the Representative for Children and Youth over recommended changes to B.C.’s child welfare system, and partnered with Strong Circle to create a provincial framework for urban Indigenous non-profit organizations in British Columbia.

The advocate also participated in the Indigenous Agencies Working Group meetings with the Ministry of

Emergency Management and Climate Readiness to inform the development and improvement of provincial emergency response programs.

\$1,463,976 in mental health funding distributed to Friendship Centres thanks to the Social Services Sector Advocate

2.2 Elders Council

The BCAAFC Elders Council provides cultural guidance, mentorship, and connection within Friendship Centres and across British Columbia.

The Elders Council welcomed two new members this year: Christine Ellis representing the Lower Mainland and Bill McKenna representing the Interior. Their knowledge, experience, and cultural practice will help strengthen the Council’s work.



3. DISABILITY INCLUSION AND ACCESSIBILITY

The Council now includes representation on Vancouver Island, the Interior, Lower Mainland and North Central regions.

Founding Elders Council member, Marge White, provides leadership, mentorship and guidance. Throughout the year, she emphasizes the importance of outreach, accessibility, and ensuring Elders feel welcomed and supported within all Friendship Centre spaces.

Representing Vancouver Island, Wally Samuel supports the Port Alberni Friendship Centre and surrounding community through cultural teachings and events, Truth and Reconciliation initiatives, and everyday guidance. He also gave a moving speech at the opening of the new Indigenous Community Health Centre in Port Alberni alongside leadership and partners.

Stanley Namox, representing the North Central region, engages with families through mentorship, youth engagement, cooking, and community care and he helps

connect community members to Friendship Centre supports and services. His work remains focused on uplifting and helping others through kindness and presence. At Gathering Our Voices, he spent much time connecting with youth and sharing teachings.

Christine Ellis, representing the Lower Mainland region, is actively involved in community programming and support initiatives, including Elders gatherings, youth nights, cultural outings, and women’s support programming. She builds strong relationships with youth, young mothers, and community members through ongoing guidance, listening, and culturally grounded support.

Bill McKenna, representing the Interior region, supports community wellness and cultural connection through talking circles, healthcare support, gatherings, and wellbeing initiatives. He is also involved with the Kelowna Friendship Society in a leadership role where he works to strengthen connections with Elders and Friendship Centres in the region.

3.1 AIDP & ASCD

BCAAFC is the host agency for the Aboriginal Infant Development Program (AIDP) and Aboriginal Supported Child Development (ASCD) Provincial Office.

The Provincial Office supports approximately 55 AIDP and 60 ASCD programs across five regions in British Columbia through mentorship, advocacy, and training. Together, these programs serve Indigenous children and families in rural and urban communities throughout the province.

AIDP has approximately 125 consultants supporting Indigenous families with young children by providing developmental screening, assessment, and referrals to early intervention services.

ASCD has approximately 130 consultants supporting Indigenous children who require extra support to participate in childcare and out-



of-school programs by working closely with families, caregivers, and community professionals.

Both programs are grounded in a culturally responsive, family-centered practice that promotes healthy child development and early learning.

For more information, visit aidp.bc.ca and ascdp.bc.ca.

4. ADVANCE HEALTH AND WELLNESS OUTCOMES

4.1 Doulas for Aboriginal Families Grant Program

The Doulas for Aboriginal Families Grant Program (DAFGP) aims to address health inequities related to birth and increase healthy birth and postpartum outcomes by lowering barriers to accessing doula care for Indigenous families.

Doula care has been documented to lead to improved outcomes for birthers and their babies. For Indigenous families, this is especially important given the disparities that exist in healthcare services and outcomes for Indigenous people. Providing doula care is a way of promoting improved health for Indigenous people right from birth.

Due to a decrease in provincial funding for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, our program had to be paused in September. But before this pause, we were able to support 309 families from 94 communities across B.C.

This year, Northern Health Authority approached the DAFGP to support

community-based training. In response, DAFGP's partnership with the Circles of Birthkeepers delivered Indigenous birthworker training in both Prince Rupert and Hartley Bay.

The training onboarded local caretakers and supported them in becoming certified birthworkers. This initiative recognizes the need for Indigenous doulas and perinatal care services in the Northern Health Region and fosters a cycle of reciprocal service with skilled, knowledgeable doulas returning to serve their own communities.

4.2 Health Advocate

The Health Advocate works to ensure that the interests of BCAAFC and all of our Friendship Centres are represented in externally created resources, policies, and programs.

The Health Advocate also facilitates monthly health engagements to better assess Friendship Centre needs and to allow for direct communication about health topics.



This year saw the creation and piloting of the Indigenous Ethics Review Board (overseen by the Health Advocate) and progress on the Urban Indigenous Wellness Report. (See below for more.) In addition, BCAAFC was the first-ever Indigenous partner on the provincial Point-In-Time homelessness count.

4.3 Urban Indigenous Wellness Report

Since the 2020 Urban Indigenous Wellness Report was published, urban Indigenous communities have experienced compounding challenges from the pandemic, climate-related disasters (wildfires, floods), economic instability, and chronic underfunding.

Friendship Centres have been on the front lines adapting to meet these urgent and complex needs, often without stable resources. This updated report will respond to the need for current, evidence-informed data to inform advocacy and community-defined priorities.

In addition, through updating the Urban Indigenous Wellness Report, we will showcase the exemplary work Friendship Centres do, the value they add to their communities, and develop strong rationale and examples to support increased funding for Friendship Centres.

To date, we have held focus groups at five Friendship Centres in Northern B.C. and on Vancouver Island. We have three more focus groups scheduled and are working to schedule an additional four along with a regional gathering on Vancouver Island at the end of June.

This year we also formed an Indigenous Ethics Review Board that oversees the development of the report and ensures alignment with community standards. The board has members affiliated with Friendship Centres, Elders, youth, participants in the University of Victoria's MBA in Advancing Reconciliation, as well as other people affiliated with universities and the First Nations Health Authority.

5. EMPOWER CHILDREN AND YOUTH

5.1 Provincial Indigenous Youth Council

BCAAFC's Provincial Indigenous Youth Council (PIYC) advocates for issues that matter to urban Indigenous youth. They ensure youth voices remain integral to the operations and the focus of the Friendship Centre Movement.

Throughout 2025 and 2026, PIYC continued to create space for Indigenous youth voices and foster connection within the Friendship Centre Movement and across the province. PIYC members participated in numerous in-person gatherings and events, including the BCAAFC Annual General Meeting, the NAFC Annual General Meeting, BCAAFC's Membership Meetings, communications and conflict resolution training in Vancouver, the Voices and Vision conference in Victoria, and Gathering Our Voices 2026.

In November, at the communications and conflict resolution workshop, PIYC alumni member Warren

Hooley shared his experiences and reflections on Indigenous youth leadership and spoke about the importance of continuing to uplift youth voices within the Friendship Centre Movement.

In February, at the Voices and Vision Conference, PIYC member Austyn Jackson delivered a powerful and emotional presentation focused on Indigenous youth mental health, prevention, and the importance of support systems following the tragedy in Tumbler Ridge. His presentation highlighted the need for communities and organizations to focus not only on reactive supports, but also on prevention and ongoing care for Indigenous youth.

In early 2026, PIYC members met with Spencer Chandra Herbert, the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, as well as Tamara Davidson, MLA for North Coast Haida Gwaii. Tamara and PIYC members discussed governance, advocacy, and Indigenous representation within government.

And like every year, PIYC played a key role in planning and supporting the Gathering Our Voices youth leadership conference. PIYC's involvement created valuable opportunities for youth perspectives to be incorporated into the event and overall delegate experience.

During Gathering Our Voices, PIYC members took on active leadership roles through participation in Opening and Closing ceremonies, volunteering at plenary events, supporting delegates throughout the event and hosting a youth seminar with NAFC's Indigenous Youth Council.

5.2 Child Care Planner

BCAAFC's Child Care Planner leads the Provincial Early Learning and Child Care Planning and Capacity Development. The intention of the program is to strengthen and expand culturally based early learning and child care services for Indigenous children and families served by Friendship Centres. The program also aims to leverage existing policies, programs, and funding to maximize sustainable access to early learning and child care services.

The primary goal the Child Care Planner works toward is reducing barriers to accessing culturally safe, high-quality child care for Indigenous families living off-reserve. As such, they supports Friendship Centres

through partnerships, funding navigation, and capacity-building initiatives such as training, tools, and resources.

Over the past year, the Child Care Planner visited seven Friendship Centre sites and hosted three regional workshops attended by Early Childhood Educators, Elders, and Friendship Centre staff.

“The Child Care Planner has been a steady source of support that helps our team stay grounded, optimistic, and focused on serving our families well.”

Early Childhood Education Workshop Participant

We also secured a renewed, multi-year contract with the Ministry of Education and Child Care, completed and implemented the BCAAFC Child Care Handbook, and released the Child Care Survey and Summary Report. In particular, the report outlined the urgent need for inclusive child care supports as well as additional funding and training focused on individualized support for children with diverse abilities.



6. ESTABLISH LEADERSHIP IN ADDRESSING VIOLENCE

6.2 Path Forward Community Fund

The Path Forward Community Fund supports the self-determination of Indigenous people by giving Indigenous communities the financial resources they need to address Indigenous-specific systemic causes of gender-based violence. BCAAFC has been administering the fund since 2022.

In 2025, BCAAFC distributed over \$6.3 million of Path Forward funds to 43 organizations. A defining feature of round four of the fund was sustainability: 13 initiatives received renewed funding to maintain momentum, retain experienced staff, and sustain community relationships.

Examples of projects include the North Okanagan Friendship Center Society Fathers Support Program that supports fathers moving towards healthier relationships with their families; violence prevention workshops hosted by the Splatkin Health Centre; a MMIWG2S+ Crisis

Action Plan for the families of women, girls and LGBTQIA2S+ created by the Takla Nation; and the hiring of a dedicated outreach counsellor at the Prince George Native Friendship Centre.

Our counsellor helped a client flee death threats by finding another coworker, from a sister program, to accompany them to Vancouver. The client was then able to attend a residential treatment centre.

In the fall of 2025, BCAAFC received 84 applications for Round Five of Path Forward funding; 21 were selected by the adjudication committee. In April, and additional \$1.2 million was added to the fund to support an additional 5 community projects.

5.3 Gathering Our Voices

The goal of Gathering Our Voices (GOV) is simple and straightforward: provide Indigenous youth with the tools they need to become leaders and contribute their gifts to the world. GOV equips youth with skills, tools, resources, opportunities, and knowledge to help them lead within their communities and youth social infrastructure.

GOV 2026 was hosted with deep respect for the local Nations who welcomed more than 1700 Indigenous youth from 168 groups including 17 B.C. Friendship Centres.

The integration of cultural teachings throughout plenary content fostered emotional and spiritual safety, pride, and empowerment among youth, enhancing the overall impact of the event.

Going to GOV helped me realize I want to work with youth as a peer support worker families.

Gathering Our Voices Participant

Like every year, youth voices remained central to the workshops, entertainment, and plenary events. Youth were invited to share their lived experiences, aspirations, challenges, successes, and cultures.

They participated in 121 workshops delivered by 91 facilitators and connected directly with employers, training providers, post-secondary representatives, community organizations and service support systems at the Career and Education Fair.

Each year, the fair is designed to bridge gaps in access to education, employment pathways, skill development, and support services that many Indigenous youth continue to face due to geographic, systemic, and social barriers.

Gathering Our Voices opened my eyes to the culture I was born into and made me less “afraid” to stand up and be proud of my culture.

Gathering Our Voices Participant

We raise our hands in gratitude to the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society, Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association, Musqueam Indian Band, Squamish Nation, and Tsleil-Waututh Nation. Thank you for helping us remind our youth that they belong, their voices matter, and that they carry important responsibilities and gifts for future generations.

9. EDUCATION

9.1 Employment, Life Skills, and Training

The Employment, Life Skills and Training Initiative (ELST) provides Friendship Centres with financial resources to design and deliver employment supports, skills training, and education supports that meet the needs of their urban Indigenous community members.

Over the past year, the ELST program served over 1,000 participants across 14 Friendship Centres. There were 38 different training workshops, short-term certifications and group cohorts delivered and 47 different client support services offered such as resume writing, financial literacy, career counseling, childcare assistance.

BCAAFC was also successful in advocating for an increase to the wage cap set by the Ministry, increasing the maximum funding that can be put towards the Employment Coordinator's wages and benefits.

9.2 Friendship Centre Training Program

The Friendship Centre Training Program strengthens capacity, builds connections, and provides practical resources for Friendship Centre staff and Board Members across British Columbia. Guided by direct input from Friendship Centre staff and the BCAAFC team, the program delivers free, accessible professional development opportunities that respond to the evolving needs of Friendship Centre Staff.

In 2025–2026, the program hosted 13 online training sessions, with 236 staff members from 23 Friendship Centres participating.

Training topics included: Online safety, Microsoft Office applications, Adobe Acrobat, financial statements, AI and ChatGPT, nonprofit governance, conflict of interest management, and the Executive Director 101: Indigenous Leadership Cohort.

“For just two hours, a lot of us took a lot away from the training.”

Training Program Participant

Participant feedback highlighted the value of the program's practical and accessible approach and how the training supported both personal and organizational growth. The sessions have also provided valuable knowledge for those new to administrative and financial roles.

9.3 Post-Secondary Student Support Program

The Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP) continued to support Indigenous learners across British Columbia over the past year. Across the Spring/Summer, Fall, and Winter semesters, 93 applications were approved, providing a total of \$324,107.85 in funding.

As the costs of education, housing, and daily living continue to rise, the demand for student financial support remains high. The PSSSP continues to help reduce financial barriers and support Indigenous learners in pursuing their educational goals.

9.4 First Citizens Fund Student Bursary Program

The First Citizens Fund Student Bursary Program helps Indigenous

learners access post-secondary education by providing support for tuition, books, and other educational expenses. During the past year, 56 applications were approved for a total of \$38,500 in funding.

Due to funding reductions from the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, the program was paused during the 2025-2026 fiscal year and has not yet reopened. Since January 2026, BCAAFC has received more than 20 inquiries from students asking when the bursary program will return, highlighting the continued need for educational funding support.

9.5 MBA in Advancing Reconciliation

The MBA in Advancing Reconciliation (MBA AR), delivered in partnership with the University of Victoria, supports current and emerging leaders to develop practical skills in governance, financial management, and strategic planning, while remaining grounded in Indigenous knowledge systems.

The first cohort included 25 participants, with 22 graduates. Each graduate completed a capstone project, developing practical tools such as governance frameworks, strategic plans, and policy resources that are already being implemented within organizations. The second cohort has 20 participants enrolled and began in May 2026.

COUNCILS & BOARD

Elders Council

Marge White
Founding Member

Stanley Namox
North Central Region

Wally Samuel
Vancouver Island Region

Christine Ellis
Lower Mainland Region

Bill McKenna
Interior Region

Provincial Indigenous Youth Council

Ethan Cameron, Executive Committee
Tansi Friendship Centre Society

Gabe Paul, Executive Committee
Victoria Native Friendship Centre

Sam Green, Executive Committee
Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society

Eric Campbell
Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre
Association

Laylah Wright
Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society

Austyn Jackson
Nawican Friendship Centre

Tanisha Oquist
Victoria Native Friendship Centre

Board Members

Annette Morgan, President
Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre

Rosanna McGregor, Vice President
Cariboo Friendship Centre

Kari Hutchison, Treasurer
Victoria Native Friendship Centre

Cal Albright, Secretary
Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship
Centre

Cyndi Stevens, NAFC Representative
Port Alberni Friendship Center

Tami Omeasoo, Director
Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship
Centre Society

Carol Camille, Director
Lillooet Friendship Centre Society

Tony Goulet, Director
Quesnel Tillicum Society

Anna Zanella, Director
Friendship House Association of
Prince Rupert

Francyne Joe, Director
Conayt Friendship Society

Gabe Paul, PIYC Representative
Victoria Native Centre Society

BCAAFC STAFF



Celeste Hayward	<i>Executive Director</i>
Dalious McCullough	<i>Member Services Program Coordinator</i>
Debbie Solomon	<i>Finance Officer: Payables and Payroll</i>
Dixie Hunt-Scott	<i>AIDP Provincial Advisor</i>
Draven Clemah	<i>GOV Sponsorships and Promotions Coordinator</i>
Duane Jacobs	<i>Director of Finance</i>
Gabrielle Gosselin	<i>Health Analyst</i>
Haley Regan	<i>GOV Volunteer Coordinator</i>
Helen Pitirmova	<i>Finance Officer: Receivables</i>
Jacquie Snelling-Welsh	<i>Director of Health Services and Policy</i>
Jean Wylie	<i>GOV Registration Coordinator</i>
Jenn Douglass	<i>Office Manager</i>
Jessica Mugford	<i>AIDP/ASCD Provincial Office Assistant</i>
Julie Roberston	<i>General Manager</i>
Kelsey Pinch	<i>Gender Based Violence Research Coordinator</i>
Kristy Jamieson	<i>ASCD Provincial Advisor</i>
Laura Alfaro	<i>Social Service Sector Advocate</i>
Linda Jones	<i>Doula Program Coordinor</i>
Marshall Watson	<i>Communications Officer</i>
Melissa Reinhardt	<i>Research and Data Analyst</i>
Michael Sharratt	<i>GOV Workshop Coordinator</i>
Monique May	<i>Director of Anti-Violence Programs</i>
Nicole Hall	<i>Communications Officer</i>
Nikki Scott	<i>Childcare Planner</i>
Noella Horoscoe	<i>Health Advocate</i>
Nuha Elgindi	<i>Project Coordinator and Board Liaison</i>
Paige Coster	<i>Youth and Elders Coordinator</i>
Rich Stern	<i>Lead Technology Specialist</i>
Richelle Williams	<i>GOV Event Manager</i>
Stephanie Cameron-Johnson	<i>Doula Assistant</i>
Taylor Logan	<i>Human Resources Assistant</i>
Terri Stachowicz	<i>Contracts Manager</i>
Tom Davis	<i>GOV Producer</i>
Valerie Croteau	<i>Contract Administrator</i>
Vanessa Daniels	<i>Employment Program Coordinator</i>

DAFGP

We thank the Ministry of Health, the Provincial Health Services Authority, Métis Nation BC, Island Health, and Northern Health for supporting the Doulas for Aboriginal Grant Program over the past year.

AIDP/ASCD

We thank the Ministry of Children and Family Development for supporting the Aboriginal Infant Development and the Aboriginal Support Child Development Provincial Office.

Path Forward Fund

Funding for the Path Forward Fund in 2024-25 was made available through a new Canada-British Columbia bilateral agreement as part of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence. Support for the Path Forward Fund furthers the ongoing work under Safe and Supported: B.C.'s Gender-Based Violence Action Plan.

ELST

We thank the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education & Future Skills for continuing to provide funding for our Employment, Life Skills, and Training Program.

Child Care Planner

Thanks to Ministry of Education and Child Care for funding our Child Care Planner position and the vital work of supporting the early years.

PIYC

Many thanks to the BCAAFC Elders Council and the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation for your ongoing support of the Provincial Indigenous Youth Council.

Health Advocate

Thank you to the Ministry of Health for supporting the work of the BCAAFC Health Advocate.

Social Service Sector Advocate

We thank the Ministry of Children and Family Development for supporting our Social Services Sector Advocate.

Friendship Centre Training

Thank you to the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation for supporting our Friendship Centre Training Program.

Elders Council

Thanks to the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation for supporting the BCAAFC Elders Council.

PSSSP

Thank you to Indigenous Services Canada for continuing to provide funding for the Post-Secondary Student Support Program.

Gathering Our Voices

We raise our hands in gratitude to the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society, Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association, Musqueam Indian Band, Squamish Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation. We also thank our many donors and supporters: Encore Canada, Iron Dog Books, Raincoast Books, the First Peoples Cultural Council, Métis Nation BC, I-SPARC, the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, Indigenous Tourism B.C., and the BC Representative for Children and Youth.



This program is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.



Supported by the Province of British Columbia



Indigenous Services Canada

Services aux Autochtones Canada



REPRESENTATIVE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Provincial Health Services Authority
Province-wide solutions.
Better health.



MÉTIS NATION
BRITISH COLUMBIA

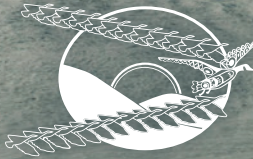


island health



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